



146

PTO/SB/21 (02-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

## TRANSMITTAL FORM

*(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)*

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/665,789               |
| Filing Date            | 09/18/2003               |
| First Named Inventor   | Ronald W. Fechter ET AL. |
| Art Unit               | 3679                     |
| Examiner Name          | Victor L. Macarthur      |
| Attorney Docket Number | 03-143                   |

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Documents<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosures(s) (please identify below):<br><br><b>Remarks</b> |
|--|---|---|

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Firm or Individual name | Andrew J. Ririe, Registration No. 45,597 |
| Signature               |  |
| Date                    | July 25, 2005                            |

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope address to:  
Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date:

07/25/2005

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Typed or printed name | Andrew J. Ririe |
| Signature             |                 |
|                       | Date 7-25-2005  |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 37 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Ronald W. Fechter et al. ) Art Unit: 3679  
Application No.: 10/665,789 ) Examiner: Victor L. Macarthur  
Filed: September 18, 2003 )  
For: ATTACHMENT DEVICE FOR A )  
LOAD-BEARING MEMBER )  
Attorney Docket No.: 03-143 )

---

Peoria, Illinois  
July 25, 2005

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

### I. INTRODUCTION

An Office action was issued on June 28, 2005 ("the Office action"). In response thereto, and in accordance with the practice outlined in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.115 and 1.143, applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, the amendments requested below include editing marks. New text in an amended paragraph or claim is underlined (new text). Deleted text in an amended paragraph or claim is indicated with a strikethrough (~~deleted text~~) or enclosed in double brackets ([[deleted text]]).